

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
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FOI/PA# 1218644-0

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**From:** [redacted] (HO) (FBI)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 03, 2011 9:03 AM  
**To:** [redacted] (PX) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE: UAV --- UNCLASSIFIED

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[redacted].wps [redacted].wps

[redacted] here is the EC ASB drafted for [redacted] a  
Use them for some of the wording for your request EC. Also included is the EC for [redacted] as well. I do not have the requesting EC from the Field Offices. But reference our conversation on today's date and I will forward your email to ASB at [redacted] Once we get the coordinates we will start the process. Any questions please feel free to call

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**From:** [redacted] (PX) (FBI)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 2:15 PM  
**To:** [redacted] (OTD) (FBI)  
**Subject:** UAV --- UNCLASSIFIED

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Hi [redacted]  
I am on the Hybrid squad in Phoenix and I was passed the UAV information you sent out to the Hybrid squads from my SSA, [redacted] I was hoping to talk to you about using the UAV for [redacted]  
[redacted] I know that we need to provide GPS coordinates for the area we are looking at, but I also wanted to get with you concerning the other items I need to provide to get the process started.

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Thank you,

[redacted]  
[redacted] cell  
[redacted] desk

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# Mission Statement

- Provide secure, strategic, and tactical communications, and deploy the sophisticated technical resources of the Operational Technology Division (OTD) in support of FBI operations worldwide



# Technical Response Team

- Unmanned Aerial Systems



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# Unmanned Aerial Systems

## Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

- Medium UAV [REDACTED]
- Small UAVS [REDACTED]
- Micro Air Vehicles [REDACTED]
- Mini Air Vehicles [REDACTED]

## Tethered Balloons

- Permit only/Continuous Comm w/ ATC

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# History

- In the aftermath of 9/11 TRU initiated UAV research program in 2003. Support to [REDACTED] contingencies. Low cost, immediate deployment capability with little to no risk to the operator.

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# Aircraft

- To date purchased [REDACTED] aircraft
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Uses-Weather/Environment

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# 3 Real World Missions

1.

2.

3.

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# Current Training

- [REDACTED]
- Private Pilot Written
- Class II Medical
- Currency Standards/pilot jackets in conjunction with FBI Aviation Branch via FAA/FAR
- Authorized [REDACTED] for private pilots license

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# Future

- Work with FAA to harness technology, operate safely in the NAS, participate in the regulatory process. Planned COA & AWS for [REDACTED]
- Work with LE Community
- Integrate with FBI Aviation Branch
- Support FBI Missions-LAB/Field/CIRG
- Explore New Systems [REDACTED]

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The Official Newsletter of the Operational Technology Division

# OTD *Connection*

May - July 2011 Edition

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As OTD undergoes executive management changes during the summer of 2011, our commitment and dedication to the FBI's mission have never been stronger. OTD employees are being rewarded for outstanding contributions to the division and, more importantly, to the Bureau. Criminals are being punished and sentenced as a result of the work achieved by employees here at OTD; this we should be very proud of. We are combating terrorism, assisting Agents in the field, providing expert testimony on high profile cases, streamlining tools, providing assistance throughout the country, and the successes go on and on.

OTD employees are sharing their knowledge, tools and equipment in coordination with others internally and externally via events like Family Day and numerous on-site tours. We are working with one another to achieve our goals and educate not only our law enforcement partners, but the public as well. With displays in place, like the OTD Technology Wall located in the Front Office, ERF, you can witness the changes in technology over time. Be sure to check out the wall if you have not already done so. The collection of items dating as early as the 1900's is fascinating!

Please note the upcoming courses and events on the last page of the newsletter. Be sure to complete any mandatory training before the deadline by registering in Virtual Academy.

*Congratulations to the winners of the Director's Awards!*

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OTD *Connection*

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### Video Surveillance Unit

Video Surveillance Unit (VSU) Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Program team members include:

VSU Pilots [redacted] Mission Analyst [redacted]

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[redacted] and Aviation Surveillance Branch (ASB) Pilot [redacted]

The UAV Program is mission ready and fully operational. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] The UAV Program is actively pursuing additional COA approvals. COA approval from the FAA is required prior to allowing the utilization of UAV resources within National Airspace. The UAV team is certified to fly [redacted] specific UAV platforms [redacted]

[redacted] The VSU coordinates with CIRG-ASB and one ASB Pilot, who is currently certified and a UAV team member.

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[redacted] was recently upgraded. Team members [redacted] attended [redacted] training to [redacted] Team members are capable of completely disassembling, reassembling, and servicing [redacted] Acquisition of [redacted] new more capable additions to the [redacted] is in process [redacted] which will further enhance capabilities and agent safety. HRT and SWAT will be providing evaluative and operational testing to assure the new systems meet ever evolving mission requirements.

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### Technical Response Unit in [redacted]

[redacted]

In June SSA [redacted] EE [redacted] and ET [redacted] from the Technical Response Unit (TRU) established an OTD presence in [redacted] at the request of the Counterterrorism Division (CTD). [redacted]

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[redacted] TRU also anticipates [redacted] serving as a location from which to support other FBI missions throughout the region.

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[redacted]  
**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 24, 2012 8:30 AM  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** Fw: ISA needed

ISA [redacted]  
Cell [redacted]

**From:** [redacted]  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** Mon Jul 23 21:42:22 2012  
**Subject:** Fw: ISA needed

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Anyone want to go to San Juan?

[redacted]

**From:** [redacted]  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Cc:** [redacted] (IR)(FBI); [redacted]  
**Sent:** Mon Jul 23 18:24:03 2012  
**Subject:** Re: ISA needed

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Roger that. I will find one.

[redacted]

Any chance you can help with an extra ISA to SJ?

**From:** [redacted]  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Cc:** [redacted] (IR)(FBI); [redacted]  
**Sent:** Mon Jul 23 18:22:34 2012  
**Subject:** ISA needed

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Dear [redacted]

We're going to need another ISA down here because neither HO nor AT can supply one for [redacted]. The goal is to double shift aircraft to the maximum extent possible so we'll need ISAs. Here's the concept:

[redacted] missions per day  
[redacted] missions per day (SJ and NSRU)  
[redacted] missions per day (SJ and AT)  
[redacted] of coverage per day [redacted]

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Best wishes,

[redacted]

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[REDACTED] (RMD)(FBI)

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**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2011 11:38 AM  
**Subject:** FW: FBI Small UAV Services and [REDACTED] Services Available --- UNCLASSIFIED

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

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FYI.

**From:** [REDACTED] (OTD) (FBI)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2011 4:40 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] (SA) (FBI); [REDACTED] (EP) (FBI); [REDACTED] (AQ) (FBI); [REDACTED] (SJ)(FBI); [REDACTED] (SD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (PX) (FBI); [REDACTED] (PX) (FBI); [REDACTED] (SA) (FBI); [REDACTED] (SA) (FBI)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (OTD) (FBI)  
**Subject:** FBI Small UAV Services and [REDACTED] Services Available --- UNCLASSIFIED

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ECSOP.wpd

Hybrid Squad SSA's,  
We Operational Technology Division (OTD) and Critical Incident Response Group (CIRG) are offering our services in support of [REDACTED] the Hybrid Squads and across all Field Offices.  
OTD's Video Surveillance Group (VSU), the Tech guys who give you [REDACTED] cool gadgets and CIRG's Field Flight Operations (FFO) the guys who fly [REDACTED] have been working jointly for [REDACTED] in an effort to create an operational Unmanned Aerial Vehicle(UAV)Program.  
The time is now here and we are offering these services.

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We have available several small Unmanned Aerial Systems available for deployment.  
Our team is composed of [REDACTED] certified Vehicle Operators (VO) which are also certified pilots [REDACTED] from CIRG) and [REDACTED] Mission Operators (MO) who are ETs from OTD.

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In order to legally fly and operate the UASs, we need to submit what is known as a Certificate of Waiver and Authority (COA) to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).  
Once the authority is granted (usually 2-3 months) we can deploy the team [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
We currently have several approved COAs and have applied for a county wide COA in [REDACTED]  
All we need from your Squads are the GPS coordinates for the target area(s) and we (OTD and CIRG) will review these for any National Airspace conflicts. If approved we will then submit these coordinates on the COA to the FAA via our new and streamlined online COA process.  
Once approved by the FAA, we will require certain administrative assistance and approvals from your office management (see attached EC).

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We have successfully operated the small UASs in [redacted] And are planning more deployments.

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Please take a moment to read the attached EC for requirements once a COA is approved.

If you are interested in these services please contact me or have your case agent contact directly and I can assist you with the process.

Regarding the [redacted] I returned from their training several weeks ago. While at the training we were able to utilize the [redacted] based [redacted] for a [redacted] drug case. These services are also available and we are coordinating these between OTD and Aviation Surveillance Branch [redacted] Once a determination is made that [redacted] Services are feasible, we will contact [redacted] Remember [redacted] is on a case by case basis and not a blanket offer.

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Any Questions please feel free to contact your Technical Advisor, your Aviation Coordinator or me directly.

Thank You

SSA [redacted]  
Program Manager  
[redacted]  
OTD-VSU  
FBI Academy Quantico, VA  
[redacted]

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[redacted]  
Records Management Division  
Record/Information Dissemination Section  
Legal Administrative Specialist  
FBI-HQ, Winchester  
FOIA 4 [redacted]  
Phone [redacted]

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This Briefing is Classified Law Enforcement Sensitive